



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Public Invited to Valley of Fires Recreation Area** **BLM to Host Free Star Gazing Party**

ROSWELL – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) invites the public to come hear and learn about the Spring constellations with BLM volunteer, John Pijawka, on Saturday, April 22 at the Bureau of Land Management's Valley of Fires Recreation Area, 4 miles East of Carrizozo. The program will begin at 8:45 pm and end at 10:00 pm. It will take place at the South Group Shelter by the volley ball sandlot.

Visitors should bring chairs, flashlights, binoculars, telescopes and wear warm clothing to better enjoy the evening.

Valley of Fires will waive the camping fee for Saturday to those attending the Star Gazing Party.

The popular area has ramps for disabled Americans over the lava flow formed by the extinct volcano known locally as Little Black Peak. The lava flow is one of the youngest in the United States from an eruption from just 1500 years ago.

There are hiking trails through the volcanic rock formations and lava tube caves that visitors can explore during the day, before the Star Gazing Party. The campground has covered shelters, tables, hot water showers, RV spaces and restrooms. No reservations are held for RV's. Some RV sites have electricity and most tent sites have potable water at the sites.

The Valley of Fire Star Gazing party is free, come out and enjoy the New Mexico night sky!

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